

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A process for decreasing development of allergic asthma, the process comprising exposing a neonatal or immature mammal to irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide (IR-LPS) derived from extracted bacterial endotoxin and operable to stimulate the Th 1 arm of the mammal's immune system, wherein exposure comprises at least weekly administration during maturation of the mammal via application of the IR-LPS to a living environment of the mammal.

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is detoxified by exposure of the endotoxin to irradiation at a level of from about 25 to about 150 kGy.

3. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the irradiation changes the structure of the endotoxin while maintaining its Th1 stimulatory effect in the resulting irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein an infant mammal is exposed.

6. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 5, wherein the exposure is achieved by administering a topical composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide to the infant mammal.

7. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 6, wherein the topical composition further comprises a powder.

8. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 7, wherein the powder comprises talcum powder, corn starch, beet starch, rice flour, oatmeal, or a mixture thereof.

9. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 6, wherein the topical composition is in the form of a topical cream.

10. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein application is achieved by administering an aerosol spray composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.

11. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 5, wherein the exposure is achieved by contacting the infant mammal with a wipe impregnated with a composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.

12. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 5, wherein the exposure is achieved by contacting the infant mammal with a diaper impregnated with a composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.

13. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the mammal is a human and during maturation is between 1 month and 2 years of age.

14. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, wherein a primate of 2 weeks to 12 months of age is exposed.

15. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, wherein a dog or cat of 1 week to 12 months of age is exposed.

16. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 6, wherein the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is delivered in a concentration from 0.01 ug/g to 100 ug/g of topical composition.

17. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein exposure to the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide is initiated shortly after birth and "during maturation" is throughout the maturing life cycle of the mammal.

18. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein administration is on a daily basis.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, wherein the mammal is a farm animal.

21. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 20, wherein the farm animal is a cow, pig, goat, horse, chicken or turkey of 2 days to 12 months of age.

22. (previously presented) A process for decreasing development of allergic asthma in a mammal maturing in an overly sterile environment by restoring normal immune system development, the process comprising exposing a neonatal or immature mammal to irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide derived from extracted *E. coli* bacteria endotoxin and operable to stimulate the Th 1 arm of the mammal's immune system, wherein exposure occurs via administration of the IR-LPS during maturation of the mammal.

23. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 22, wherein the exposure is achieved by administering an aerosol spray composition comprising the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide.

24. (previously presented) A process according to claim 23, wherein the mammal is a human infant and exposure comprises at least weekly administration from 1 month to 2 years of age via application of the IR-LPS to a living space of the human infant.

25. (previously presented) A process for decreasing development of allergic asthma, the process comprising exposing a neonatal or immature human of up to about 2 years of age to irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide derived from extracted bacterial endotoxin and operable to stimulate the Th 1 arm of the human's immune system while reducing interleukin 1(IL-1) stimulation caused by the native form of the lipopolysaccharide derived from extracted bacterial endotoxin, wherein exposure comprises administration on an at least weekly basis of an aerosol spray composition comprising of the irradiation-detoxified lipopolysaccharide at a concentration of 5-15 µg/ml.